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Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 EA-10
TRSE-00 OMB-01 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00
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O R 291513Z MAR 78
FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 636
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USIA WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJECT: WEST BANK PRESS HIGHLIGHTS: U.S. - ISRAELI DIFFERENCES

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED: SUMMARY---FOLLOWING NEWS STORIES FROM WASHINGTON OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S MEETING WITH CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS, EAST JERUSALEM/WEST BANK PRESS FOCUS REPORTING ON "BEGIN'S SIX NOES" TO "CARTER PLAN." EDITORIALS DESCRIBE THE "REAL CRISIS OF ISRAEL" AND THE ROLE THAT "REAL" AMERICAN PRESSURE MUST PLAY TO ACHIEVE "PRACTICAL" RESULTS." ONLY ALTERNATIVE TO BEGIN'S LEADERSHIP SEEN AS WEIZMANN WHO CONSIDERED BY "AL QUDS" AS "ONLY RELATIVELY MODERATE." "AL QUDS," WHILE DRAWING COMPARISONS TO AMERICA'S RELATIONSHIPS WITH NATIONALIST CHINA, AND S. VIETNAM WARNS ISRAEL THAT "TIME PASSES QUICKLY AND REGIMES AS WELL AS PEOPLES' MOODS CHANGE QUICKLY." END SUMMARY.

1. DRAWING UPON WIRE SERVICE REPORTING, LOCAL PRESS SINCE PRIME MINISTER BEGIN'S RETURN FROM U.S. HAS EMPHASIZED
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BEGIN'S SIX "NOES" AND CAREFULLY DELINEATED EACH POINT OF DISAGREEMENT.

2. "ASH-SHA'AB" (NATIONALIST, INDEPENDENT) HEADLINES: "BEGIN FACES THE WORLD WITH SIX NOES--A FIVE POINT AMERICAN PROPOSAL FOR A SETTLEMENT APPROVED BY CONGRESS" AND BUILDS STORY ON ISRAEL'S YEDIOT CORRESPONDENT REPORTS FROM WASHING-

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TION, FIVE POINTS OUTLINED:
(A) FIVE-YEAR PROVISIONAL INTERNATIONAL ADMINISTRATION
FOR WEST BANK AND GAZA;
(B) LIMITED REFERENDUM FOR THE OCCUPANTS OF WEST
BANK AND GAZA AT END OF FIVE YEARS;
(C) POSSIBILITY OF THE INTERNATIONAL FORCE CONSISTING
OF ISRAEL, EGYPT AND JORDAN WITH EQUAL VETO POWER;
(D) WITHDRAWAL BY ISRAEL FROM THE WEST BANK AND GAZA
EXCEPT FOR STRATEGIC POINTS IN THE JORDAN VALLEY AND HILLY
REGIONS OF THE WEST BANK, WITH REMAINING IDF FORCES HAVING
NO POLICE AUTHORITY WITH LOCAL RESIDENTS;
(E) NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE PROVISIONAL INTERNATIONAL
AUTHORITY AND ISRAEL ON THE DEPLOYMENT OF ISRAELI FORCES.
YEDIOT'S CORRESPOONDENT QUOTED WITH REPORTING CONGRESSIONAL
SUPPORT FOR THESE POINTS AND CARTER PRESENTATION OF
NOTES ON HIS TALKS WITH BEGIN.

3. OTHER PRESS PRESS REPORTS EMPHASIZE BEGIN "NO" TO EACH
OF SOX AREAS OF DIFFERENCE BETWEEN U.S. AND ISRAEL AS
DESCRIBED IN WORE SERVICE REPORTS AND CARRIED IN SAME
FORMAT "JERUSALEM POST" OVER WEEKEND.

4. "AL QUDS" (MODERATE) HEADLINED ON MARCH 27 "VANCE
TALKS OF DIFFERENCES WITH ISRAEL" AND "AMERICAN PROPOSES
A TEMPORARY INTERNATIONAL ADMINISTRATION FOR THE WEST
BANK AND GAZA WITH A REFERENDUM FOR ITS CITIZENS";
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"WASHINGTON INTERESTED IN ISRAEL'S SECURITY AND READY
TO SIGN MUTUAL DEFENCE TREATY WITH HER TO REACH A COMPRE-
HENSIVE SETTLEMENT." NO EDITORIAL COMMENT ON WIRE SERVICE
STORY.

5. EDITORIALS: "AL QUDS" (MARCH 27)--"THE REAL CRISIS
OF ISRAEL": "IT IS DOUBTFUL IF BEGIN CAN WITHSTAND REAL
AMERICAN PRESSURE WHICH WOULD ALLOW TWO ALTERNATIVES...
RESPONDING TO WHAT AMERICA SEES AS A REAL BASIS FOR COMPRE-
HENSIVE SETTLEMENT OR RELINQUISHMENT OF POWER. UNTIL
SUCH PRESSURE IS APPLIED THE POLITICAL SITUATION WILL
WITNESS MORE MANEUVERS...WITHOUT ANY PRACTICAL RESULTS."
"ISRAEL IS DOUBTLESS FACING A CRISIS AND WE DO NOT SEE
ANY LEADER CAPABLE OF PLAYING HIS HISTORIC ROLE...
BECAUSE ALL ITS LEADERS ARE POWER BLIND."

6. IN ANOTHER COMMENTARY "AL QUDS" DRAWS ATTENTION TO
AMERICA'S RELATIONSHIPS WITH SOUTH VIETNAM AND NATIONALIST
CHINA AND CONCLUDES "CHARTER HIT THE CORE OF THE TRUTH
WHEN HE SAID THAT ARMS WILL NOT INSURE SECURITY FOR
ISRAEL. REAL SECURITY CAN ONLY BE REALIZED WHEN
OTHER PEOPLE ARE CONVINCED OF THE GOOD INTENTIONS OF THAT

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STATE AND WHE WANTS THEM TO LIVE IN PRESTIGE AND
RESPECT LIKE HERSELF."

7. "AL FAJR" (PRO-PLO) OPINES "EGYPTIAN LEADERSHIP
WILL COMMIT A DEADLY ERROR IF IT ACCEPTS RESUMP-
TION OF NEGOTIATIONS BEFORE ISRAEL ISSUES AN OFFICIAL
STATMENT DECLARING HER INTENTION TO WITHDRAW FROM
ALL OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES AND FULL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLES' RIGHTS TO SELF-DETERMINATION
AND ESTABLISHMENT OF THEIR INDEPENDENT STATE." END UNCLASSIFIED.

8. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE: COMMENT---EAST
JERUSALEM/WEST BANK ARABIC PRESS WITHOUT RISKING EDITORIAL
CENSORSHIP HAS LET ITS SELECTION OF HEADLINES DISPLAY
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SOME SATISFACTION WITH U.S.-ISRAELI DIFFERENCES REVEALED
DURING CARTER-BEGIN TALKS. LACK OF EDITORIAL RESPONSE
TO SPECIFIC POINTS ATTRIBUTED TO CARTER AS POSSIBLE
BASIS FOR SETTLEMENT PROBABLY REFLECTS SOME CONFUSION TO
WHAT OFFICIAL (PLO) LINE WOULD BE AND SOME WILLINGNESS
BY WEST BANKERS TO FIND THESE PROPOSALS NOT UNPALATABLE
ALTERNATIVE TO PRESENT ISRAELI OCCUPATION. END LIMITED OFFICIAL USE.
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